

Title: Integrated Plasma Fuel Cell Process
Application 10/604,961
Inventor: Meyer Steinberg

Page 1

Attorney Docket No. 03-STE-01CIP

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

October 1, 2003

In re: Utility Application 10/604,961 Filed August 28, 2003
Attorney Docket No.: 03-STE-01CIP
Title of Invention: Integrated Plasma Fuel Cell Process
Inventor: Meyer Steinberg
No Examiner or Art Unit has been Assigned as of the Above Date of Submission
Art Unit of Parent Application: 3746

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**Applicant's Submission of: Preliminary Amendment re Figure 1
Information Disclosure Statement
Redlined Specification of the Parent Application**

Preliminary Amendment of the continuation-in-part application 10/604,961 filed
August 28, 2003, is requested: Applicant requests that FIG. 1 be deleted and the
attached FIG. 1 be inserted in lieu thereof.

An information disclosure statement is herewith filed within 3 months of the filing
date pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1).

A redlined specification of the parent application is enclosed to supplement the
file of the continuation in part application.

REMARKS

This application (10/604,961) was filed with a FIG.1 mistakenly taken from the
parent application (U.S. Patent Application 10/604,153, which was abandoned upon

1 filing of this application (Application 10/604,961). While the existing FIG. 1 correctly
2 depicts one of the embodiments of the invention, this embodiment is captured in
3 content in existing FIG.2. Applicant requests that the new FIG. 1 be made of record in
4 the application. Applicant makes no request that the replacement drawing be included
5 in the patent application publication.

6 The new FIG. 1 drawing correctly depicts the invention described in the
7 application in Paragraph 20 and in claim 2. The replacement drawing includes no new
8 matter.

9 No change is made to Fig. 2, which depicts a compilation of all the claimed
10 embodiments.

11 The attached IDS includes a copy of the cited publication reference for the
12 Plasma Black Reactor by Gaudernack, B and Lynum, J. from the 11th World Hydrogen
13 Energy Conference Proceedings, Cocoa Beach, FL pp 511 - 23 (June 1996).

14 For the other cites:

15 The Suggitt patent (4,202,167) describes a typical Water Gas Shift Reactor;

16 The Fjelhaug patent (6,505,467) describes a typical combined cycle process for
17 producing electricity, steam and carbon dioxide from a hydrocarbon;

18 The Hsu patent (4,490,445) describes a typical solid oxide fuel cell;

19 The Ayasse patent (5,344,849) describes a typical process using the Fischer-

20 Tropsch Catalytic Reactor and methanol conversion catalyst;

1 The Wakui patent (4,555,526) describes a typical process for producing
2 hydrocarbons using a Fischer-Tropsch Catalytic Reactor;
3 The Aoki patent (5,378,339) describes a typical water electrolyzer;
4 The van Dijk patent (5,472,986) describes a typical methanol catalytic converter;
5 The Viteri patent application (2002,0174659) describes a typical combined-cycle
6 fuel cell and fuel combustion power process;
7 The Bohn patent application (2002,0120017) describes a typical process for the
8 production of hydrocarbon products; and,
9 The Cooper patent application (2002,0106549) describes a typical Direct Carbon
10 Fuel Cell.

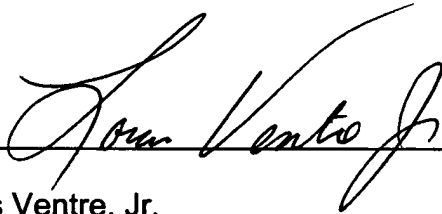
11 Each of the cited references establishes that each of the process steps in the
12 subject invention are well known. None of the references contradicts applicant's
13 position that the claimed combinations are unique.

14 No copies of cited U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent application publications are
15 included with the IDS pursuant to USPTO's July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement
16 under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each
17 U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after
18 June 30, 2003. The subject application was filed after June 30, 2003, specifically on
19 August 28, 2003, and it therefore meets the condition precedent for application of the
20 waiver.

1 Conclusion

2 The submitted Preliminary Amendment and IDS comply with the USPTO rules.
3 The redlined parent specification enhances the record. Applicant, therefore, requests
4 that the amendment, IDS, and redlined specification be accepted and further requests
5 that the claims in the case be allowed.

6 Respectfully submitted,

7 

8 Louis Ventre, Jr.
9 Registered Patent Attorney
10 USPTO Customer Number: 24221
11 Registration Number: 46254
12 2483 Oakton Hills Drive
13 Oakton, VA 22124-1530
14 Telephone Number: 703-241-8711
15 Facsimile Number: 703-241-8714